

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled)

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A process for purifying on a large scale a product from a feedstock containing one or more impurities having closely-related physical properties to the product, which process compromises:

feeding the feedstock into an extraction column under conditions adapted for separating more-or-less polar impurities from the feedstock, wherein a lighter phase flows counter to a heavier phase, thereby forming an output in one phase containing the product containing less more- or less-polar impurities so that the output contains the product in a substantially purified form, wherein the lighter phase compromises heptane and acetone or heptane and isopropanol, the heavier phase compromises water and acetone or water and isopropanol, and the product is rapamycin or 40-O-(2-hydroxy)ethyl rapamycin a derivative thereof or ascomycin or a derivative thereof selected from the group consisting of 33-epi-chloro-33-desoxyascomycin, 5,6-dehydro-ascomycin or FK506.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A process of claim 11, wherein the lighter phase comprises about 25 wt-% n-heptane and about 75 wt-% acetone, or about 90 wt-% n-heptane and about 10 wt-% isopropanol.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): A process of Claim 11, wherein the heavier phase comprises about 50 wt-% water and about 50 wt-% acetone, or about 68 wt-% water and about 32 wt-% isopropanol.

Claims 14-22 (Canceled)